

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



ALIGNING BOARD PRIORITIES WITH OPTIMIZED RESOURCES

Mission Statement

To guide the County's economic development efforts, in coordination with the private sector and community stakeholders, by fostering fair and open competition, conducting extensive outreach to assist vendors in navigating and competing in today's marketplace, and leveraging existing resources to maximize the infusion of financial capital into the local community.

Strategic Initiatives/Support Highlights Economy

- Coordinated the expansion of Entrepreneur Month for November 2013 to stimulate greater community participation and support beyond the universities.
- Conducted community visioning exercises and developed a proposal for the economic development portion of the penny sales tax through a public/private partnership with Imagine Tallahassee.
- Opened Domi Station, a business incubator to house and provide business support services to start-up ventures.
- Promoted collaboration and communication through a "Town and Gown" partnership with Florida State University, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee Community College, and the City of Tallahassee.
- Co-founded the Alliance of Entrepreneur Resource Organizations (AERO), a coalition of public agencies and community non-profit organizations united to provide current and new businesses with resources to aid in their success.

Contact Us

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PEOPLE FOCUSED. PERFORMANCE DRIVEN.

ADVOCATING FOR LEON COUNTY'S ECONOMIC INTERESTS

- Leon County continues to focus on job creation and investment in the community:
 - Created 790 jobs through capital infrastructure improvement projects, including transportation and storm water improvements.
- Leon County has invested more than \$18.3 million in the Frenchtown/ Southside Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and the Downtown CRA to revitalize the downtown and areas to the north and south of downtown. Construction of the Aloft Hotel, the Alliance Center, Cascades Park, and the trail along FAMU Way were funded in part through these CRAs, as is the new construction surrounding the Gaines Street District, including: College Town (a mix of apartments, entertainment and retail); The Deck (apartments and street-level retail); and The District and The Catalyst (both student apartments).
- Subject to voter approval of the penny sales tax extension, Leon County will be investing 12% (an estimated \$90.7 million over 20 years) of the penny sales tax revenue in economic development projects. These projects will be reviewed by a citizens' committee, subject to an annual audit, and voted on by the County and City Commissions.
- In partnership with Leon County Government and in affiliation with Florida State University, Domi Station opened a business incubator and co-working space at the Leon County Historic Amtrak Station Complex, which offers opportunities (access to mentors, market strategies, and capital) for entrepreneurs of all ages.

Florida Trend Feature



Domi Station



Capital Projects and Job Creation (FY14 & FY15)

Over the past several years, the Board has taken strategic steps to focus resources on maintaining jobs, investing in the community, and creating local infrastructure improvements. These steps include committing \$85.8 million towards the following capital projects:

Project Categories	Project Costs	Jobs Created
Culture & Recreation	\$9,047,482	83
General Government	\$14,118,600	130
Health & Safety	\$7,515,545	69
Physical Environment	\$17,710,703	163
Transportation	\$37,463,957	345
Total FY14 & FY15 Projected Spending	\$85,856,287	790